IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Daijiro YUMOTO et al.

Title: ESTIMATING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF INPUT AND OUTPUT

ENABLING POWERS FOR SECONDARY CELL

Appl. No.: Unassigned

. 1

Filing Date: FEB 1 0 2004

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 CFR §1.56</u>

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the document A2 is described in the present specification.

Document A3 discloses a charging rate estimating device for a secondary battery.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

FEB 1 0 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: Facsimile:

(202) 672-5414

(202) 672-5399

Richard L. Schwaab

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 25,479

Chause

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control

| difficor. | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Substitute for form | 1449B/PTO |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted FEB 1 0 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)
Sheet 1 of 1

| Complete if Known | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| Application Numb r | Unassigned | | | |
| Filing Date | FEB 1 0 2004 | | | |
| First Named Invent r | Daijiro YUMOTO | | | |
| Group Art Unit | Unassigned | | | |
| Examiner Name | Unassigned | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 023971-0367 | | | |

| U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|
| | Cite | U.S. Patent Application Document | | Name of Batantae or Applicant of | Filing Date of Cited | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant |
| | No.1 | Serial Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Document MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | A1 | 10/695,800 | | YUMOTO ET AL. | 10-30-2003 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| * | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| | | Foreign Patent Document | | | | Date of Publication of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where | |
| | Cite No. ¹ | Offic | ce ³ Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ₆ |
| | A2 | JP | 9-171063 | Α | NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD. | 06-30-1997 | | Abstract |
| | A3 | JP | 2003-75518 | Α | NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD. | 03-12-2003 | | Abstract |
| | | | | | | | | |
| , | | | | | | | | |

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ^r |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | - |

| Date Considered | |
|--------------------|---|
| | 1 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.